

INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

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RMR

I HAVE OF COURSE AVOIDED RAISING ANY ASPECT OF CUBA WITH SOVIET OFFICIALS, AND NONE HAS RAISED SUBJECT WITH ME EXCEPT GROMYKO (EMBTTEL 1139). HOWEVER, DIPLOMATIC COLLEAGUES ON WHOM I AM PAYING INITIAL CALLS INEVITABLY RAISE QUESTION IN CIRCUMSTANCES PROBABLY ENSURING EITHER DIRECT (I.E., SATELLITE) OR RECORDED REPORTS TO SOVIET AUTHORITIES. HAVE ACCORDINGLY CAREFULLY FOLLOWED SUBSTANCE BRIEFING TELEGRAMS RECEIVED HERE.

ON SPECIFIC QUESTION BOMBERS, HAVE TAKEN LINE THEIR REMOVAL CONSTITUTES ESSENTIAL PART KENNEDY-KHRUSHCHEV AGREEMENT, SINCE SOVIET SIDE FULLY AWARE FROM PRESIDENT'S SPEECHES, FROM LIST PROHIBITED MATERIEL WE SENT THEM, AND FROM PRESS REPORTS, THAT THEY INCLUDED AMONG "OFFENSIVE WEAPONS SYSTEMS" DESCRIBED BY PRESIDENT WHICH KHRUSHCHEV AGREED TO REMOVE. I HAVE STRESSED WE HAVE NO REASON BELIEVE THERE EXISTS ANY MISUNDERSTANDING ON SOVIET SIDE OF THIS ASPECT AGREEMENT. WE ASSUME KHRUSHCHEV WILL KEEP HIS WORD AND FIND MEANS TO OVERCOME ANY OPPOSITION CASTRO MAY BE OFFERING.

SOME COLLEAGUES (PRINCIPALLY AMONG SATELLITES) HAVE USED LINE THAT USSR HAS NOW TAKEN ACTION (REMOVAL MISSILES) AND WORLD NOW WAITING FOR US RPT US TO TAKE COMPARABLE ACTION TO FULFILL ITS PART BARGAIN (E.G., BY FORMALIZING "NO-INVASION" IN "GUARANTEE" PLEDGE AND PUTTING STOP TO ALLEGED US MILITARY BUILD-UP DIRECTED TOWARDS CARIBBEAN AREA AS WELL AS TO THREATENING STATEMENTS CUBAN EXILES AND US RIGHTISTS). I HAVE REPLIED ESSENCE OF DEAL IS THAT IT REQUIRES USSR TO ACT AND US RPT US NOT RPT NOT TO ACT, I.E., TO REFRAIN FROM INVASION. IT CLEAR WE ARE DOING THIS. BEST GUARANTEE RESIDES NOT IN WORDS BUT IN "AUTOMATIC VERIFICATION" AFFORDED BY NATURE OUR SOCIETY, IN WHICH US AND WORLD PRESS CAN BE

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RELIED ON PROMPTLY AND FULLY REPORT ANY SIGNIFICANT US MILITARY MOVEMENTS. THUS, NEXT STEP LIES CLEARLY WITH SOVIETS, WHO HAVE OBLIGATED THEMSELVES TO TAKE POSITIVE ACTION AND ARE AWARE THIS INVOLVES REMOVAL OF BOMBERS. NEW CRISIS CANNOT BE EXCLUDED IF THIS NOT ACCOMPLISHED WITHOUT UNDUE DELAY.

KOHLER

MCA

NOTE: Passed White House-11-14-62-10:05 a.m. SBW

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